Filed 11/24/09 Page 1 of 15

Case 2:09-cv-08651-JHN -PLA Document 1

attached as Exhibit A.

the original complaint and subsequently filed a First Amended Complaint on October 28, 2000. A copy of the Summons and First Amended Complaint is

2. Chartis first received notice of the action and a copy of the First Amended Complaint on October 28, 2009, when Chartis was served with the First Amended Complaint and Summons through its registered agent in California. Chartis is filing this Notice of Removal within thirty days after receiving the complaint and summons. Accordingly, the notice is timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).

3. Chartis is informed and believes that at the time the action was filed, plaintiff Taylor Morrison, Inc. was and still is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Scottsdale, Arizona.

4. Chartis is informed and believes that at the time the action was filed, plaintiff Taylor Morrison Services, Inc. was and still is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Scottsdale, Arizona.

5. Chartis is informed and believes that at the time the action was filed plaintiff Taylor Woodrow Communities at Vasari, L.L.C. was and still is a Florida limited liability company with its principal place of business in Tampa, Florida.

6. At the time the action was filed, Chartis was and still is an Illinois corporation with its principal place of business in Chicago, Illinois.

7. Chartis may remove the action under 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b) because the Court has original jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §1332. The action is a civil action between citizens of different states and the matter in controversy exceeds the sum of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs. Plaintiffs seek a declaration that Chartis has coverage obligations under insurance policies in excess of \$75,000.

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III

WHEREFORE, Chartis files this Notice of Removal of this action from the Superior Court, in which it is now pending, to the Central District Court of California, Central Division, California DATED: November 23, 2009 Respectfully submitted, LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP Rebecca R. Weinreich Attorneys for AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SPECALTY LINES INSRUANCE COMPANY7 n/k/a/ CHRATIS SPECIALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

LEWIS
BRISBOUS
BISGAARED
& SMITH LUMP
ATTORIES AT LUMP

4832-0501-4277.1

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

EXHIBIT A

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SPECIALTY LINES INSURANCE COMPANY am ILLizous corporation

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

TAYLOR MORRISON, INC., f/k/a Taylor Woodrow, Inc., a Delaware corporation, etal; Trylor morrison SERVICES, INC. I/K/c morrison Homes, inc. or Delaware corporation; and Trylor woodrow Communities at vasarille. a Florid limited hobility company

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfitelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civit case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISOI Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a

manuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen este citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en este corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demendante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesan su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida el secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podré quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de riay otros requisitos regales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado immediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede ilamar a un servicion remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.layhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayude de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o ponlándose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recursorión de \$40,000 é más de valor recibida mediante un screenia que concesión de arbitrais on un corre de derecho avid. Tiene cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (Æl nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles - Civil Division 1 11 North Hill St. os Angeles, CA 90012

CASE NUMBER: BC420870

CONFORMED SOPY OF ORIGINAL FILED

Los Angeles Superior Court

AUG 3 1 2009

John A. Cjąrke, Executijve Officer/Clerk

DAWN ALEXANDER

_03 Aligeles, CA 90012		
Jeffrey D. Masters, Esq. (SE Cox Castle & Nicholson, LLi 2 049 Century Park East, 28	none number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: imero de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que n 3 No.: 94122) Patrick M. McGovern, Esq. (SB No.: 2085 P This Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067 P: (310) 277-4222 Cierk, IV	(310) 277-7889 , Deputy
(For proof of service of this	MODE TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PR	(Adjunto)
(Para prueba de entrega d	s (for POS-010).) Summons, (POS-010)).	
AUG.	NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served	CHAN
AUG 3 1 day	CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)	416.60 (minor) 416.70 (conservatee) 416.90 (authorized person)
	4. by personal delivery on (date):	

AW OFFICES OF

OX, CASTLE &

ICHOLSON LLP

OS ANGELES, CA

because of bodily injury and property damage allegedly resulting from the importation and use of allegedly defective Chinese drywall products at multiple residential construction projects developed by the plaintiffs. Plaintiffs seek a declaratory judgment, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §1060, as to their rights under the insurance policies in question, in accordance with the contractual provisions of those policies, insuring obligations implied or imposed by law, and plaintiffs' reasonable expectations.

The Parties and Jurisdiction

- 2. Plaintiff Taylor Morrison, Inc., is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business in the State of Arizona, and is presently doing business in the State of California. Taylor Morrison, Inc. was formerly known as Taylor Woodrow, Inc.
- 3. Plaintiff Taylor Morrison Services, Inc., is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal of business in the State of Arizona and is presently doing business in the State of California. Taylor Morrison Services, Inc., was formerly known as Morrison Homes, Inc.
- 4. Plaintiff Taylor Woodrow Communities at Vasari, L.L.C., is a Florida limited liability company with its principal place of business in the State of Florida.
- Plaintiffs Taylor Morrison, Inc., Taylor Morrison Services, Inc. and Taylor Woodrow Communities at Vasari, L.L.C. are hereafter referred to collectively as "plaintiffs" or "Taylor Morrison."
- 6. Defendant American International Specialty Lines Insurance Company ("AISLIC"), is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Illinois. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that AISLIC has its principal place of business in the State of Illinois. At all relevant times, defendant AISLIC was authorized and licensed to do and was doing business in the State of California.
- 7. The insurance policies issued by AISLIC that are the subject of this action provide that AISLIC will submit to the jurisdiction of any court of competent jurisdiction within the United States.

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The AISLIC Insurance Policies

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Plaintiffs purchased commercial umbrella liability insurance policies from AISLIC with the policy numbers and for the policy periods set forth below:

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Policy Number 9746096

7412123

7412254

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March 1, 2007 – March 1, 2008 March 1, 2008 - March 1, 2009

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larch	1.	2006 -	March	1,	2007
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Policy Period

The aforementioned insurance policies are hereafter referred to as the "Policies". Copies of the Policies will be lodged with the Court.

- Taylor Morrison, Inc. is the First Named Insured on the Policies. Taylor Morrison Services, Inc. is a Named Insured on the 2008-2009 Policy. Taylor Woodrow Communities at Vasari, L.L.C. is a Named Insured on the Policies.
- The Policies provide coverage for those sums in excess of the self-insured 10. retention that the insureds become legally obligated to pay as damages by reason of liability imposed by law because of (inter alia) bodily injury or property damage to which the insurance applies.
- The Limit of Insurance under each Policy is \$25,000,000 "Each Occurrence." 11. The Policies define "occurrence" in pertinent part as follows:

"[A]n accident, including continuous or repeated exposure to substantially the same general harmful conditions, which results in Bodily Injury or Property Damage neither expected nor intended from the standpoint of any Insured."

The Chinese Drywall Claims

The owners of certain homes developed by Taylor Morrison ("Homeowners") 12. have made claims against Taylor Morrison, alleging that the Chinese drywall installed in their homes by subcontractors on behalf of Taylor Morrison is defective and has resulted in alleged bodily injury and property damage to their homes and other property contained therein (the "Chinese Drywall Claims"). (è Õ

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13. C	ertain Homeowners have sued Taylor Morrison in relation to their Chinese
Drywall Claims, in three	e underlying actions. The three underlying actions are (1) Kristin Culliton,
et al. v. Taylor Morrison	n Services, Inc., et al., United States District Court for the Middle District of
Florida, Case No. 8:09-	589 (a purported class action) (the "Culliton Action"); (2) Karin Vickers, et al.
v. Knauf Gips KG, et al	, United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, Case
No. 09-20510-CIV-KM	IM (a purported class action) (the "Vickers Action"); and (3) Larry Galvin,
et al. v. Knauf Gips KG	e, et al., United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, Case
No. 09-20847-CIV-KM	IM (the "Galvin Action") (collectively referred to hereafter as the "Underlying
Actions").	

14. The three Underlying Actions have been consolidated for pretrial purposes in a multidistrict litigation proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, and transferred to the Eastern District of Louisiana under MDL No. 2047, In Re: Chinese-Manufactured Drywall Products Liability Litigation.

AISLIC'S Failure to Provide Insurance Coverage

- Taylor Morrison timely notified AISLIC of the Chinese Drywall Claims and the Underlying Actions and tendered them to AISLIC for indemnity. AISLIC acknowledged receipt of the notices and tenders, but has failed to acknowledge coverage for the Chinese Drywall Claims and failed to acknowledge its obligation to indemnify Taylor Morrison.
- 16. Taylor Morrison has demanded that defendant AISLIC acknowledge, accept and undertake its contractual obligations to plaintiffs as set forth in the Policies. Defendant AISLIC has to date nonetheless failed and refused to acknowledge its obligations to Taylor Morrison.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

DECLARATORY RELIEF - DUTY TO INDEMNIFY

- 17. Plaintiffs re-allege paragraphs 1 through 16 of this First Amended Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- Plaintiffs have demanded that defendant AISLIC acknowledge its coverage obligations and indemnify plaintiffs as to their losses arising out of the Underlying Actions and the Chinese Drywall Claims. Defendant AISLIC has to date refused to acknowledge its coverage

obligations and has to date refused to and failed to indemnify plaintiffs for the losses they have incurred and will incur as a result of the Underlying Actions and the Chinese Drywall Claims.

- 19. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists between plaintiffs, on the one hand, and defendant AISLIC, on the other hand, with regard to defendant AISLIC's obligations to plaintiffs. Plaintiffs contend, and are informed and believe and thereupon allege, that defendant AISLIC denies that defendant AISLIC is obligated to indemnify plaintiffs in connection with the Underlying Actions and as to the losses plaintiffs have incurred and will incur as a result of the Chinese Drywall Claims.
- 20. Plaintiffs desire a judicial determination and declaration of the parties' respective rights and duties under the Policies, and specifically a judicial determination and declaration that AISLIC is obligated to indemnify plaintiffs.
- 21. A judicial declaration of the rights, duties and obligations of the parties is necessary and appropriate at this time in that plaintiffs have no plain, speedy or adequate remedy at law, and a judicial determination and declaration of rights herein will avoid a multiplicity of actions.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs Taylor Morrison, Inc. Taylor Morrison Services, Inc. and Taylor Woodrow Communities at Vasari, L.L.C. pray for judgment against defendant American International Specialty Lines Insurance Company as follows:

A. As to the First Cause of Action for Declaratory Relief (Duty to Indemnify), for a judicial determination of the rights and obligations of the parties under the Policies with respect to plaintiffs' claims; and

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1	B. As	to the First Cause of Action
2	1.	For costs of suit herein; and
3	2.	For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.
4	DATED: Octobe	26, 2009 COX, CASTLE & NICHOLSON LLP
5		
6		By: Muy J. M25/h Jeffrey D. Masters
7		Patrick M. McGovern
8		Attorneys for Plaintiffs Taylor Morrison, Inc., Taylor Morrison Services, Inc. and Taylor Woodrow Communities at Vasari, L.L.C.
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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL Plaintiffs Taylor Morrison, Inc., Taylor Morrison Services, Inc. and Taylor Woodrow Communities at Vasari, L.L.C., hereby demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable. COX, CASTLE & NICHOLSON LLP DATED: October 26, 2009 Patrick M. McGovern Attorneys for Plaintiffs Taylor Morrison, Inc., Taylor Morrison Services, Inc., and Taylor Woodrow Communities At Vasari, L.L.C.

LAW OFFICES OF COX, CASTLE & ICHOLSON LLP LOS ANGELES, CA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR DISCOVERY

This case has been assigned to District Judge Florence-Marie Cooper and the assign	nec
discovery Magistrate Judge is Paul L. Abrams.	

The case number on all documents filed with the Court should read as follows:

CV09- 8651 FMC (PLAx)

Pursuant to General Order 05-07 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the Magistrate Judge has been designated to hear discovery related motions.

All discovery related motions should be noticed on the calendar of the Magistrate Judge				
=======================================	: :			
NOTICE TO COLINSEL				

A copy of this notice must be served with the summons and complaint on all defendants (if a removal action is filed, a copy of this notice must be served on all plaintiffs).

Subsequent documents must be filed at the following location:

312 N. Spring St., Rm. G-8 411 West Fourth St., Rm. 1-053 34	Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth St., Rm. 134 Riverside, CA 92501

Failure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.

Case 2:102 of 15 Civil Cover sheet

I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself) DEFENDANTS	
THE TOTAL THE PART OF THE PART	
TAYLOR MORRISON, INC., et al. AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SPECIA INSURANCE CO.	LTY LINES
(b) Attomeys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same.) Rebecca R. Weinreich SB#155684 LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP 221 N. Figueroa Street Suite 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90012 213.250.1800 II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an X in one box only.) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES - For Diversity	Cases Only
(Place an X in one box for plaintiff and one for defendant.) PTF DEF Citizen of This State	Place X 5 X 5
Citizen or Subject of a 3 5 Foreign Nation Foreign Country	□ 6 □ 6
Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened (specify): District Litigatio V. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: JURY DEMAND: X Yes No (Check 'Yes' only if demanded in complaint.) CLASS ACTION under F.R.C.P. 23: Yes X No MONEY DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT: \$ VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause. Do not cite jurisdictional 28 U.S.C. section 1441(b) and 28 U.S.C. section 1332	
VII. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an X in one box only.)	LABOR
400 State Reapportionment	710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act 740 Railway Labor Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act RROPHRTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL STANS (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS - Third Party
Actions	26 USC 7609

AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

Casquaique des district courrectent des tract of 4 during the civil cover sheet

, ,	Has this action be	en previously filed in this c	court and dismissed, remanded or closed? X No Yes
If yes, list case number(s):			Von
· •	Have any cases been	previously filed in this cou	ourt that are related to the present case? X No Yes
If yes, list case number(s):			
Civil cases are deemed related i			
(Check all boxes that apply)			ted transactions, happenings, or events; or
			or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact; or
			stantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or
	D. Involve	the same patent, trademark	c or copyright, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.
IX. VENUE: (When completing			
* *			State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named plaintiff resides.
Check here if the governs	nent, its agencies or	employees is a named plai	intiff. If this box is checked, go to item (b).
County in this District:*	7447		California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
,		"	State of Delaware and State of Florida
(b) List the County in this Distr	ct; California Coun	ty outside of this District; S	State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides.
Check here if the government	nent, its agencies or	employees is a named defe	fendant. If this box is checked, go to item (c).
Country in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
			State of Illinois
. ,		ty outside of this District; S	State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose.
Count v in this District:*	,		California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
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Los Amgeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties			
* Los Amgeles, Orange, San Be Note: In land condemnation case			
X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNI	Y (OR PRO PER):		Date November 24, 2009
			EINRÉICH
Notile to Counsel/Parties: The CV-71 (JS-44) Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed but is used by the Clerk of the Court for the purpose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)			
Key to Statistical codes relating t	o Social Security C	ases:	
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement o	of Cause of Action
861	HIA		surance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the 15FF(b))
862	BL .	All claims for "Black Lui (30 U.S.C. 923)	ing" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969.
863	DIWC	•	ed workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))
863	DIWW	All claims filed for wido Act, as amended. (42 U.S	ows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security S.C. 405(g))
864	SSID	All claims for supplement Act, as amended.	ntal security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security
865	RSI	All claims for retirement U.S.C. (g))	t (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42

CV-71 (05/08)